Communications India and Shri Shunu Sen, a well known Marketing Consultant to study the working of Prasar Bharati and keeping in view its responsibility as a public service broadcaster to make appropriate recommendations with regard to its organizational structure, legal framework, systems and other relevant areas to ensure quality, credibility and professionalism within the organization.

(d) The Committee has submitted its report on 20th May, 2000.

Separate TV Channels for telecasting of regional programmes

† 856. SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to provide another T.V. channel to the State Governments for the telecasting of regional programmes; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) There is no proposal to provide any TV Channel to the State Governments.

(b) Does not arise.

Popularity of DD News Programme

857. PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the popularity of DD News programme has improved;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, what Government intend to do to improve its popularity;

(d) whether it is a fact that hefty amount is paid for the new news readers who are drawn from private channels; and

(e) whether this new effort has yielded the desired result?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) and (b) Prasar Bharati has intimated that the News and Samachar and

† Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.